

Minutes of Meeting of Region Artistic Swimming Management Committee at 7.30pm on 24 November 2020 via Zoom Platform

Present: Roger Downing, Mary Hooper, Sarah Pullan, Georgina Coombs, Mike Coles, Sarah Garrett, Viv Ebbs

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| <p>1. <u>Welcome, Introduction and Apologies</u>
 Roger welcomed Mike and Sarah G to the meeting. Sarah has taken over the role of Grading Officer from Lou. It was agreed that a gift voucher and flowers should be presented to Lou to thank her for her years of service to Artistic Swimming.</p> <p>Roger stated that the main purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to run a grade day in the current climate and how to help the clubs that are struggling for more water time.</p> <p>Apologies from Mary (late)</p> | <p>RD/SG</p> |
| <p>2. <u>Update from Maria Ramos, Chair Artistic Swimming Leadership Team</u>
 Mary to thank Maria for the update and request that links for the Conference and Artistic Swimming webinars are sent by email because a lot of clubs are missing out on the webinars.</p> <p>Mike is happy to set up a link for the webinars on the South West Region web page. Anyone who wants to join should let him know and also pass this information on to club members.</p> <p>Roger asked that members with any questions for Maria should send them to him in the next few days. Roger will send the comments to George Woods and ask him to forward them to the appropriate person. He will also let George know about the problems with water time.</p> | <p>MH</p> <p>MC</p> <p>All</p> <p>RD</p> |
| <p>3. <u>Grading</u>
 Georgie noted that Figure Grading days are currently the most important issue because swimmers will have moved into a different age group next year and will not meet the required grade criteria because they have been unable to take their next grade during the current situation.</p> <p>A minimum of 3 clubs must take part in a Grade day and the size of the pool needs to be considered to take account of social distancing. Viv suggested running it like a circuits session with swimmers moving to the next station at a signal, possibly one waiting and one in the water to give time for a rest between figures.</p> <p>The Leadership Team has been trialling virtual grade days. Roger to write to Maria to say the South West Region is really pleased to hear that grading will take place and that everything is moving forward. He will ask her to let him know whether grading will be live or on video so that all the clubs in the Region can be informed.</p> <p>It was agreed that pools should be booked in preparation for Grade days and competitions - 25 April, and a day in May. Also, a day in June which would be for grading or a competition.</p> | <p>RD</p> |

	ACTION
Sarah G to book Hengrove, getting costings for a whole day and their cancellation policy.	SG
Sarah P to contact Cheltenham about availability and their cancellation policy.	SP
4. <u>Regional Clubs</u> Roger is worried about the smaller clubs which only have one hour of water time a week – Calne, West Dorset, Kernow. Some clubs are struggling with Stronger Affiliation and the Region as a whole has lost 5 clubs so far this year.	
Roger agreed to investigate the possibility of funding for clubs which have to travel long distances when competitions are at the other end of the Region.	RD
5. <u>Calendar for 2021</u> It was agreed that the calendar would need to change, especially as the National competitions would probably not take place until after the August break.	
6. <u>Any Other Business</u> <u>Officials training</u> Georgie asked Roger, when he writes to Maria, could he also ask her to set up a virtual training session for officials.	RD
<u>Development Officer</u> Concern that the post of Development Officer has been removed and information is not getting through to clubs. Mike agreed to get communication flowing from the South West Region. He asked agreement from those present to set up a social media page on Facebook, and also set up a communication platform to email all concerned with artistic swimming. Agreed.	MC
<u>Dorset Club</u> Mary queried whether this club had a constitution because they had no swimmers. Roger to check it out	RD
7. <u>Date of next Meeting</u> The next meeting will take place in mid-December if more information on the way forward is available by then.	

Circulation: Roger Downing, Mary Hooper, Sarah Pullan, Georgina Coombs, Mike Coles, Sarah Garrett, Viv Ebbs